

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claim 8 to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejection. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-20 remain pending and under current examination.

Regarding the Office Action:

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite; allowed claims 1-7 and 15-20; and indicated claims 8-14 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants traverse the rejection, though nevertheless respond as follows.

Rejection of Claims 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph:

The Examiner alleged that the limitation “the determination result” in the last line of claim 8 does not have proper antecedent basis. *See* Office Action, p. 2.

To advance prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 8 to eliminate any indefiniteness issue. Specifically, Applicants have replaced “the determination result” with “a result of the determining.”

The amendment to claim 8 therefore overcomes the 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, rejection. Claim 8 is allowable, as are claims 9-14 at least by virtue of their dependence from allowable claim 8. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 8-14, and an indication that they are now allowed.

Conclusion:

In view of the foregoing, Applicants request reconsideration of the application and withdrawal of the rejection. Pending claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance, and Applicants request a favorable action.

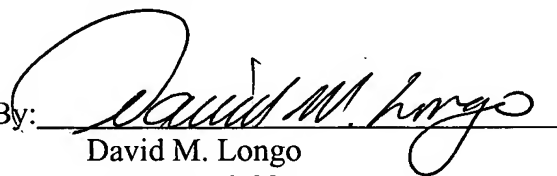
If there are any remaining issues or misunderstandings, Applicants request the Examiner telephone the undersigned representative to discuss them.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 28, 2005

By: 
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